1: Hocart Y-5 (ca. 1920) 1929 OQ6 Lau OQ6
Lakemba

capacity for work almost invariably takes the first place in a description of his character. Salesi thinks that formerly bravery was most thought of; now it is straightness (*yalo ndonu*); but people also like *manggosa*, which is combined skill and care in work.

The best way to get the people to work is to divide them into two teams and pit one against the other: the effect is miraculous; it transforms a rabble of slackers into two groups of enthusiastic workers. This spirit of rivalry is called *veinggati* or *veikati*.

Rivalry

This leads to one of the most far-reaching traits in the Fijian character. It extends not only to work, but to dancing, and anything in which it is possible to outdo others, especially munificence. A reputation for meanness (*yalondrendre*) is perhaps what a Fijian dreads most. Generosity, for which strangely enough, there appears to be no name, is a gentlemanly trait.

The fear of getting a bad name is the foundation of Fijian ethics. A certain nobleman was said to spend all his money on his people in order to get a good name. The good name of a clan or village is as carefully upheld. If a clan fails to provide enough food for a feast it gets a bad name.

A Fijian is very sensitive to public opinion, a sensitiveness expressed by *mandua*. This word covers such emotions as shame, bashfulness, shyness, shamefacedness, prudishness, constraint, delicacy. It makes ridicule, insult or defeat hard to bear. It is especially strong in the relations of inferiors to superiors, of young to old, of nobles and elders towards one another. It makes men ashamed at a ceremonial blunder by one of their number, but it also makes them reluctant to put him right; it makes them loth to haggle, or to argue; it makes them awkward in asking for a favor; it makes them distant with their parents or elder brothers. The following is an instance to what a point they carry their sense of delicacy: I received a bill for ten shillings intended for Vola; I passed it on to him and heard nothing more about it until one day he remarked of the sender of the bill, "He knows our ways well; that is why he sent the bill to you. We agreed on five shillings as the fare, but he knew that if you saw the bill I should be ashamed to haggle, and would pay." Salesi preferred to sell his copra to a certain man because he weighed it in silence, whereas the others talked nicely to him while weighing, so that if the weights were wrong he was ashamed to protest.

They are as quick to seize upon the ridicule in others as they fear it in themselves. Number upon number of the Native Gazette contains a letter relating with great zest some blunder, as that a man pursued a shadow on

[ONGEA ISLANDS]

13 From the latter[1] a good trail leads across the central flat to the [987] village. The bay on the south side of Ongea Levu is too shallow for vessels larger than small cutters to enter.

317 There is no fresh water other than rainwater which is caught and stored in a cement cistern at the village.

136 No wild animals other than rats, lizards and snakes occur on these islands. There is a large green lizard called "vokai" by the natives, and one (perhaps two) species of gray-brown snakes. The natives report wild goats, but neither they nor their tracks were seen..

361 [161] 247 All the inhabitants, about 100 in number, live in the village on Ongea Levu, but they cultivate considerable areas on both Levu and Ndriti. The principal products raised are manioc, sweet potato, 245 yams, taro and bananas. The coconut groves are not so extensive as the area of the islands would permit, but they apparently produce sufficient copra to supply the humble wants of the natives.

181 149 322 285 287 231 The people are industrious and fairly intelligent despite their isolation. There is a more or less distinct Tongan cast. Wood carving, mat weaving and tapa beating are carried on to some extent, and numbers of canoes are cut in the thick woods. Pigs and a few fowl are raised, and dogs are kept as pets.

[1] [i.e.--anchorage on the west side of Ongea Levu. --analyst]

[p.13]

[FULANGA I.]

312 Water is available only at the villages where rainwater is caught and stored in cement tanks.

13 The limestone hills are thickly covered with the usual lowland forest. The flats on both sides support extensive groves of coconut palms and cultivated areas. Mangrove thickets border the S.W. side of the lagoon.

The animals include birds, rats, lizards and probably snakes, although none of the latter were seen, except the banded water snake. [P31] The natives have domestic fowls, pigs and dogs. Mosquitoes present.

361 There are three small villages on Fulanga. Muanaithake [161] and Muanaira are close together on the south ocean side. The former has a population of about 200, living in 40 houses; the latter is much smaller, about a dozen houses and 40 inhabitants. Naividamu is situated on the N.W. arm, on the lagoon side. It has a population 487 of 64, living in a dozen huts. The three villages are connected by a good path.

● 181 The people appear prosperous and fairly industrious. The women 462 catch fish and dive for shell fish and oysters within the lagoon. The [226] men do the reef fishing and cultivate the fields. Canoe making and 241 [321] some carving is done, and the women weave mats and beat out masi (tapa). 285 Some little copra is cut and shipped and the usual crops of sweet [287] potatoes, yams, manioc and bananas are grown, the latter for local 295 consumption only. 241

[p. 16]

13 S. NAMUKA-I-LAU lies about 8 miles N.W. of the Yangasa Cluster.
[361] (Village: S.18° 51', 178° 38' W.)It is rectangular in shape, a little over 4 miles long by 1 broad, and composed of coral limestone. A barrier reef, reduced to a chain of coral heads on the N.W., surrounds the island. On the north side of the island a rough ridge of upraised coral limestone rises abruptly from the sea to a height of 260 feet, and on the S.W. there is a short ridge up to 240 feet high.
[361] The village is located on a large bay facing the south, and another sandy bay is located at the west end. Each contains two small islets. The interior is a flat covered with extensive groves of cocoanut palms and cultivated areas. Along the ridges and at each end is lowland forest. There is a small marsh near the village.

The south bay is shallow and inaccessable. Good anchorage may
[487] be had within the reef off the north side. A trail leads over the ridge from a landing situated half way between the highest peak (260') and a more conspicuous double peak (210'), near a cocoanut grove.
[312] Rainwater is caught and stored at the village.

No land snakes, but water snakes are to be found occasionally on the rough coral beaches. Rats, hermit crabs and lizards are present. Mosquitoes and dragonflies ~~[illegible]~~ numerous.

361 The village is of moderate size, with over 50 houses and a pop-
161 ulation of about 216. The inhabitants are industrious and prosperous
181 cutting a large amount of copra and farming extensive cultivated areas.
245 There is a Chinese store. There is considerable beating of masi (tapa),
241 but very little carving.
177
289
327
366

[p. 23]

[ONEATA I.]

361 certainly more than the reported 25 houses. Dakuiloa is much smaller,
[61] with 21 houses and 85 people. There is a store at each village,
366 Chinese at Wainggori, Japanese at Dakuiloa. The people seemed
197 friendly, courteous, generous and sincerely religious. There was a
181 noticeable Tongan element.
194

241 Quite a little agriculture is carried on by the natives, good corn (maize) being raised in addition to the usual sweet potatoes, yams, manioc, taro, bananas, and pumpkins. The people are prosper-
181 ous and industrious. Some little mat weaving, masi (tapa) beating,
285 and wood carving is done.
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332

[p. 29]

361 161 [991] Lakemba has seven native villages, Tumbou being the largest one in Lau, with a population of 285. The others in order as one goes counter-clockwise along the well kept connecting road are:- Wathiwathi, on the east side of the south-jutting peninsula, 130 natives; Waitambu, three quarters of a mile to the east, 76 inhabitants; Bukununu at the S.E. corner of the island, at the head of a small bay, 70 natives; Vandrana, along the banks of a fair size stream, at the N.E. corner, 187 inhabitants; Vakano, about 2 miles to the N.W., 70 natives; and Nasanggalau, with 150 inhabitants, about a mile to the westward at the mouth of the next stream. The west end of the island, opposite the Wankatalatha anchorage, is privately owned. There is a small store, 423 366 179 run by Chinese in nearly every village, and a large store run by the Lau Traders, Ltd., at Tumbou.

181 439 295 241 287 The inhabitants are thrifty, intelligent and industrious, drying and exporting a large quantity of copra. There are extensive cultivated areas containing yams, sweet potatoes, etc., in the valleys. Considerable masi (tapa) is made.

799 871 Lakemba was the first island in Fiji to be Christianized by British Missionaries (1853). The Provincial School, to which boys from all over Lau are sent, is situated near Tumbou.

[p.43]

13 22. NAIAU is a high limestone and volcanic island, 16 miles N.W.of Lakemba and 20 miles S.W.of Tuvutha'. (S.17° 58', 179° 04' W.) The island is 3 1/2 miles long by 2 miles wide, and is surrounded by a fringing reef. The high marginal ridge of upraised coral limestone, which rises percipitously on the north to 580 feet elevation, surrounds a ~~dry~~ dry central volcanic basin, carpeted with grass, scrub and Pandanus. The ridges are well forested.

There is no anchorage for vessels, but boats can cross the reef opposite the village of Salia on the east side, and also on the N.W. side, at high water.

312 Water is not abundant, but may be had at the villages, together with limited supplies of staple groceries and vegetables.

361 There are three villages on the island. Salia on the east side
[366] has a native population of 140 and two chinese stores. Narothivo
177 is located about a mile and a quarter to the N.N.W. and has 117
[161] people. Liku, with 59 natives is on the south-east side. There is no landing at Liku, and all supplies and copra has to be carried
487 by trail over the ridges and across the central basin. Gaps in the
13 limestone ridges on each side, with gradual slopes of volcanic material leading up to them, make this trail more accessable than
181 that on Tuvutha'. The people appear to be prosperous and produce
245 quite a little copra from the extensive coconut groves.

172 On the high ridge S.W. of Salia there is the site of an
361 ancient fortified village, perched at the top of a cliff.
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[p.56]

13 23. VANUA VATU is a small island of limestone and volcanic formation, 25 miles S.S.W. of Naiau and 22 miles N.N.W. of Tavunasithi. Like Naiau, it consists of a dry, grassy basin of volcanic material surrounded by a ring of wooded upraised coral limestone hills rising to 300 feet elevation on the S.E. and S.W. The elevation of the central basin is from 200 to 250 feet. The island is slightly over a mile square.

It is surrounded by a barrier reef which joins the shore in several places on the west side. On the N. and N.E. this reef lies from 3/4 to 1 mile off shore, but is close in for the rest of its length. With an off shore wind, small craft can anchor over a 9 fathom shelf close to the reef in the N.W. cove. From here a boat passage leads into a sandy basin, but a second reef, between this and the village can be crossed only at high water.

361 There is a single village, Taira, one of the neatest and cleanest seen in Fiji, at the N.W. corner. Contrary to the statement of lack of
● 181 262 food made in the Pilot book (H.O.166,p.275), we found the people quite
312 13 propperous and both food and water fairly abundant. The central basin
134 is dry and rocky, supporting only grass, scrub and Pandanus, but small
[241] pockets of fertle soil among the limestone hills have been cleared and crops of sweet potatoes and yams are raised.

[p.58]